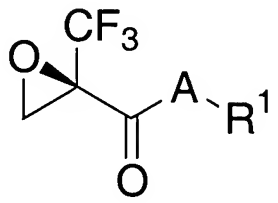
AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows (a clean copy of the Abstract is provided on a separate sheet):

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

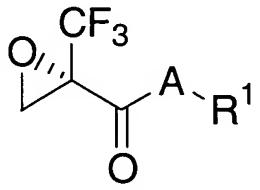
~~An optically~~Optically active fluorine-containing ~~compound~~compounds of ~~represented by~~ the ~~following~~ formula (1):



(1)

~~wherein A is an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or an NH group, and R^+ is a methyl group, an ethyl group, a C_{3-10} linear, branched or cyclic alkyl group, a C_{6-20} aromatic group, a C_{6-20} aromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a halogen atom, a C_{6-20} aromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a methyl group, a C_{6-20} aromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by an ethyl group, a C_{6-20} aromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a C_{3-6} linear, branched or cyclic alkyl group, a C_{6-20} aromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a methoxy group, a C_{6-20} aromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by an ethoxy group, a C_{6-20} aromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a C_{3-6} linear, branched or cyclic alkyloxy group, a C_{5-19} heteroaromatic group, a C_{5-19} heteroaromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a halogen atom, a C_{5-19} heteroaromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a methyl group, a C_{5-19} heteroaromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by an ethyl group, a C_{5-19} heteroaromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted~~

~~by a C_{3-6} linear, branched or cyclic alkyl group, a C_{5-19} heteroaromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a methoxy group, a C_{5-19} heteroaromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by an ethoxy group, a C_{5-19} heteroaromatic group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a C_{3-6} linear, branched or cyclic alkyloxy group, a benzyl group, a benzyl group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a halogen atom, a benzyl group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a methyl group, a benzyl group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by an ethyl group, a benzyl group having hydrogen on the aromatic ring optionally substituted by a C_{3-6} linear, branched or cyclic alkyl group, a 2-phenylethyl group, or a C_{3-10} linear, branched or cyclic alkyl group having a C_{6-20} aromatic group bonded thereto, or by the following~~ or of formula (2):



(2)

~~wherein A and R^1 are as defined above~~ are used for producing optically active 3,3,3-trifluoro-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionic acids.